

REMARKS

Claims 10-13 are pending. The applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The Abstract is objected to since it does not mention that the voice control system substitutes the other of a pair of opposite commands if the speech recognizer interprets the command input as not being selected at the given system state. Accordingly, the Abstract is amended. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The title is objected to as being insufficiently descriptive. By way of the above amendment, the title suggested in the office action is adopted. Therefore, the examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the objection to the title.

Claim 12 was rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. The office action states that the limitation in claim 12 that the substituting unit does not substitute the other of the reciprocal pair of oppositely working commands if the recognized pair is not selectable for the given states contradicts the limitation of parent claim 10 which recites that under the same conditions it does make this substitution. Claim 12 has been amended to clarify the further limitation that if certain conditions exist relating to multiple stepwise sub-states, then the substituting unit prevents the substitution of the command that would otherwise occur. In operation, such a situation is encountered for example with the commands "Volume Up" and "Volume Down". Support for the amendment is located in the application as filed, for example, page 21, lines 2-17. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 10 and 11 are allowed. Claims 12 and 13 are indicated as allowable if claim 12 is amended to overcome the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

Applicants strongly emphasize that one reviewing the prosecution history should not interpret any of the examples applicant has described herein as limiting to those specific features in isolation. Rather, for the sake of simplicity, applicants have provided examples of why the claims described above are not indefinite.

In view of the foregoing, the applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance. A timely notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If questions relating to patentability remain, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone.

If there are any problems with the payment of fees, please charge any underpayments and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1147.

Respectfully submitted,



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